NOTE XII.

ON A COLLECTION OF BIRDS FROM THE TENIMBER ISLANDS.

BY

J. BÜTTIKOFER.

(Plate 3).

In 1883 a collection of birds from the Tenimber or Timor-Laut group of Islands was presented to our Museum by Mr. Riedel, Resident at Amboina. This collection contains 35 skins, representing 31 species, one of which (*Erythromyias Riedeli*) is new to science, while two other (*Ardea picata* and *Fregata minor*) are for the first time brought from that interesting locality. Unfortunately the collection was much damaged by humidity, some of the labels were wasted entirely, while in most of the others the sexe, date and particularities about the locality were not mentioned. It is however quite certain that all the presented skins really come from Timor-Laut, and have been collected by the hunters of Mr. Riedel in 1882. Our Museum is very much indebted to Mr. Riedel for this collection, the more as it is the first one we ever received from this far-away portion of the Dutch possessions in the Malay Archipelago.

Nisus albiventris.

Urospizias albiventris, Salvad. Orn. Pap. I. p. 56; Meyer, Isis, 1884, p. 11; Forbes, P. Z. S. 1884, p. 426.
Urospizias sp., Salvad. P. Z. S. 1884, p. 577.

Nisus rufitorques, Schl. Mus. P.-B., Rapaces; id. Notes Leyd. Mus. 1879, p. 2.

The only specimen obtained, a male in a very interesting transitional stage of plumage, shows, intermixed with the plumage of the young birds, exactly the same colors as our adult female from Little Ké, except the upper surface, which is somewhat darker gray in the Timor-Laut specimen. The tibiae and under wing-coverts, said by Salvadori to be pure white in the adult bird from Timor-Laut and used by this author as a reason to distinguish this latter from the Ké specimens, are just as pure white in our adult female from Ké. The difference of the Ké- and Timor-Laut specimens would therefore only be based upon the very slight difference in the color of the upper surface in the males, while females from both localities cannot be distinguished at all, reason enough to consider the Timor-Laut specimens to be nothing but *Nisus albiventris*.

Measurements of the male: wing 190 mm., tail 150, tarsus 54.

Cacatua Goffini.

Lophochroa Goffini, Finsch, Tijdschr. v. d. Dierk. 1863, p. XXIII.

Cacatua Goffini, Schl. de Dierentuin, 1864, p. 82.

Plictolophus Goffini, Finsch, Papag. I. p. 308.

Cacatua sanguinea, Schl. (nec Gould) Mus. P.-B., Psitt. 1864, p. 144; id. Revue, 1874, p. 67; Sclater, P. Z. S. 1883, pp. 197, 200; Forbes, P. Z. S. 1884, p. 431.

One specimen (sexe not mentioned) exactly similar to the specimen of *C. sanguinea* in the Leyden Museum, which is the type of *Plictolophus Goffini*, Finsch. There must be remembered, however, that in the type of *P. Goffini* the red on the lores and front is not wanting, as Dr. Finsch says in his description, and that the red on the basal parts of the feathers of the cheeks is so strongly pronounced, that it gives them a somewhat »blood-stained" appearance. The only essential difference from *C. sanguinea* Gould, upon which *C. Goffini* can be based, is its much inferior size. The comparative measurements are as follows:

C. sanguinea wing 290 mm. (Finsch); tail 150 mm.
» » » 265 » (Gould); » 150 »
C. Goffini » 210—220 mm.; » 115 »

The hitherto unknown habitat of this species would thus be the Islands of Timor-Laut.

Geoffroyus keyensis.

Pionias rhodops (part.) Finsch, Papag. II. pp. 380, 955.

Eclectus personatus (part.) Schl. Mus. P.-B., Psittaci, Revue, p. 18.

Geoffroyus keyensis, Salvad. Orn. Pap. I. p. 173; Sclat. P. Z. S. 1883, p. 200; Forbes, P. Z. S. 1884, p. 431.

Geoffroyus timorlaoënsis, Meyer, Isis, 1884, p. 15; Salvad. P. Z. S. 1884, p. 578.

An adult male and a young (green-headed) female.

After a careful comparison of the two specimens with our fine series from the Ké Islands, I feel sure that the birds from Timor-Laut may not be considered as specifically distinct from those from the Ké Islands. Dr. Meyer, in his above mentioned paper, has based the difference upon their inferior size and the green color of the outer web of the first primary. In both our two specimens the length of wing is 170 mm., thus inferior to that of our smallest specimens from Ké. It must be remembered, however, that according to Dr. Meyer, the length of the wing in the birds from Timor-Laut vary from 170 to 185 mm., while our smallest specimens from Ké measure but 182 mm., reason enough to consider the birds from both groups of Islands to be identical, the more as I cannot find the slightest difference in the color of the outer web of the first primary.

The late Prof. Schlegel, in his Catalogue of the Leyden Museum, preferred uniting the whole group of *Geoffroyus* in which the color of the hind neck does not differ from that of the mantle, under the name of *Eclectus personatus*, I should rather prefer, partially according to Count Salvadori and others, to divide this group as follows:

I. Back green:

A. **Smaller form** (wing 142—162 mm.).
  a. Under wing-coverts pale verdigris. . . . . *G. personatus.*
    Sumbawa (v. Lansberge), Flores, Timor, Wetter.
  b. Under wing-coverts cobalt-blue. . . . . *G. aruënsis.*
    Aru Islands.
B. **Larger form** (wing 160—195 mm.).
  a. Under wing-coverts verdigris. . . . . *G. keyensis.*
    Timor-Laut and Ké Islands.
  b. Under wing-coverts cyaneous. . . . . *G. rhodops.*
    Ceram-group with Bourou.

II. Back red:

  a. Under wing-coverts cyaneous. . . . . *G. Pucheranii.*
    Western New-Guinea and adjacent Islands, except Mysore and Jobie.
  b. Under wing-coverts deep purplish blue. . . . . . *G. mysorensis.*
    Mysore (Soëk).
  c. Under wing-coverts verdigris . . . . *G. jobiensis.*
    Jobie.

A fourth species of this group, *G. dorsalis* Salvad. (Orn. Pap. I. p. 190), based upon a brown-headed specimen from Andai, seems to be rather dubious, as the reddish brown edgings of the interscapulary feathers, which ought to distinguish it from *G. Pucheranii*, are also found in a specimen of the latter species from Waaigama (Mysole).

Another character which may not be to much depended upon, is the reddish brown patch on the lesser wing-coverts which is just as strongly developed in many of our *G. Pucheranii* as it is in *G. mysorensis.*

Eclectus Riedelii.

Eclectus Riedelii, Meyer, P. Z. S. 1881, p. 917; Sclater, P. Z. S. 1883, p. 200, pl. 26.

Adult male (green) and female (red).

Lorius reticulatus.

Lorius reticulatus (Müll.), Schl. Mus. P.-B., Psittaci, Revue, p. 58.

Eos reticulata, Salvad. Orn. Pap. I. p. 245; Sclat. P. Z. S. 1883, p. 200.

A nearly adult female, in transitional stage of plumage, collected the 1 st of August.

Dacelo chloris.

Sauropatis chloris (Bodd.), Sclat. P. Z. S. 1883, p. 200.

One specimen.

Eurystomus pacificus.

Eurystomus orientalis (Vig. et Horsf.), Schl. Mus. P.-B., Coraces, p. 139.

Eurystomus pacificus (Lath.), Meyer, Zeitschr. f. d. ges. Orn. 1884, p. 4.

One specimen.

Rhipidura fusco-rufa.

Rhipidura fusco-rufa, Sclat. P. Z. S. 1883, p. 197; pl. 27.

One specimen.

Myiagra fulviventris.

Myiagra fulviventris, Sclat. P. Z. S. 1883, p. 54.

One specimen.

Microeca hemixantha.

Microeca hemixantha, Sclat. P. Z. S. 1883, p. 55.

One specimen.

Erythromyias Riedeli, spec. nov.

(Plate 3, fig. 1).

Supra olivaceo-fusca, pileo, nucha et capitis lateribus olivascente nigris, stria superciliari lata ab naribus ad nucham ducta et nucham cingente isabellina, dorso olivaceo, interscapuliis pallide fulvo striatis, cauda supracaudalibusque ferrugineis, retricibus sub certa luce fusco-transfasciolatis; remigibus nigricantibus, primariis extus acute, secundariis latius, *tertiariis late fulvo marginatis, scapularibus et tectricibus alarum minoribus dorso concoloribus, mediis late fulvo terminatis; subalaribus pallide fulvis; subtus fulvide rufa, gula pallidiore, mento, abdomine et subcaudalibus albis, plus minusve fulvido tinctis, tibiis nigro fuscis; rostro nigro, pedibus pallidis.* — Long. tota 105 mm., alae 61, caudae 40, tarsi 20.

Hab. Insulis Tenimberensis.

One specimen (unsexed) in rather bad condition.

It may be observed that the genus *Erythromyias* is ranged by Mr. Sharpe in his Catalogue of Birds (Vol. IV) amongst the group which has the second primary longer than the secondaries, while in both this new species and *E. Muelleri* it is of the same length as the latter.

I feel obliged to dedicate this bird to Mr. J. G. F. Riedel, Dutch Resident at Amboina, who is one of the few higher functionaries in our East Indian possessions, who most energetically and successfully spends time and money for the benefit of natural history.

Graucalus unimodus.

Graucalus unimodus, Sclat. P. Z. S. 1883, p. 55 (female), p. 198 (adult male).

One adult male.

Graucalus melanops.

Graucalus melanops (Lath.), Sclat. P. Z. S. 1883, p. 200.

One adult specimen.

Lalage moesta.

Lalage moesta, Sclat. P. Z. S. 1883, p. 55.

One specimen (adult female).

Artamus leucogaster.

Artamus leucogaster (Val.), Sclat. P. Z. S. 1883, p. 200; Forbes, A Naturalist's Wanderings, 1885, p. 361.

Artamus musschenbroeki, Meyer, op. cit. p. 30; Salvad. P. Z. S. 1884, p. 578.

One adult female.

Pachycephala fusco-flava.

Pachycephala fusco-flava, Sclat. P. Z. S. 1883, p. 198, pl. XXVIII (av. jun.); Forbes, l.c. p. 588, pl. LIII (mas ad.).

One adult male.

Dicaeum fulgidum.

Dicaeum fulgidum, Sclat. P. Z. S. 1883, p. 56; Gould, Birds of New Guinea, part 16.

One specimen, labelled as a female, is in no respect different from the male of *D. keiense* Salvad., of which two males and one female are in the Leyden Museum. In want of a male specimen and finding no description of the female of *D. fulgidum*, I cannot but with some hesitation accept the name of *fulgidum* for the mentioned specimen.

Stigmatops squamata.

Stigmatops squamata, Salvad. Orn. Pap. II. p. 326.

Stigmatops Salvadorii, Meyer, Zeitschr. f. d. ges. Orn. 1884, p. 28.

Two adult specimens.

A careful comparison of the two mentioned specimens with our series from Khor Island is not able to show any difference neither in color nor in size between the specimens from Khor and Timor-Laut. Dr. Meyer (l. c.) has based his *St. Salvadorii* upon its smaller size, the difference in color of the moustachial stripe, and the more largely extended squamation on the cheeks. Amongst our specimens from Khor the moustachial streak in all the males is olivaceous, in all the females dull gray, and certainly the specimen from Khor used for comparison by Dr. Meyer was a male. In well-conditioned specimens the squamation is as much extended in the Tenimber birds as in those from Khor, and the measurements hardly will allow a separation, as the specimen selected by Count Salvadori as type and used for the measurements is the largest amongst our whole series.

The following are the measurements:

	wing	tail	bill	tarsus
Khor, Leyd. Mus.	65—75	53—60	15—18	17—21
Tenimber, Meyer	61—68	45—53	15—18	17—21

Calornis crassa.

Calornis crassa, Sclat. P. Z. S. 1883, p. 56, pl. XIV.

Adult male and female.

Oriolus decipiens.

Mimeta decipiens, Sclat. P. Z. S. 1883, p. 199.

The only specimen of this interesting species (male) differs in some respects from the description given by Mr. Sclater, l. c., especially in wanting the white superciliary stripe, in having chin and throat uniform gray instead of white and transversally speckled with black, and the chest being uniform instead of longitudinally striped with black.

Corvus macrorhynchus.

Corvus macrorhynchus, Wagl. Syst. Av., Corvi Nº 3; Schl. Bijdragen tot de Dierk., Notice sur le genre Corvus, p. 9, pl. 1, fig. 5 and 6; id. Mus. P.-B., Coraces, p. 19.

Corvus validissimus, Sclat. (nec Schlegel) P. Z. S. 1883, pp. 51, 195, 200; Forbes, P. Z. S. 1884, p. 433.

Corvus latirostris, Meyer, Zeitschr. f. d. ges. Orn. 1884, p. 10; Salvad. P. Z. S. 1884, p. 580.

One adult specimen.

The last quoted bird can in no respect be distinguished from *C. macrorhynchus*, which is represented in our Museum by a specimen from South Borneo, eight from Java, one from Sumbawa, two from Timor and three from Wetter, and which differs from all the allied species by its wider bill and the greenish gloss on head, neck and partially on the under surface. The measurements according to the different localities are as follows:

	wing	tail	tarsus	length of bill from front	width at base	height at base
Borneo	320	207	60	62	25	23
Java	310—343	175—210	61—66	60—70	26—28	22—25
Sumbawa	350	207	60	68	27	23
Timor	320—335	187—204	55—60	64—68	27	23
Wetter	305—320	180—187	55—56	62	23—26	22
Timorlaut	332	193	60	61	27	22

Ptilopus Wallacei.

Ptilopus Wallacei (Gray), Sclat. P. Z. S. 1883, p. 200.

One specimen.

Ptilopus xanthogaster.

Ptilopus xanthogaster (Wagl.), Sclat. P. Z. S. 1883, p. 200; Forbes, Nat. Wand. (1885) p. 366.

Ptilopus diadematus (Temm.), Schl. Mus. P.-B., Columbae, p. 11.

Ptilopus flavovirescens, Meyer, Isis, 1884, p. 50; Salvad. P. Z. S. 1884, p. 580.

One specimen.

Carpophaga concinna.

Carpophaga concinna, Wall. Ibis 1865, p. 383; Sclat. P. Z. S. 1883, p. 200.

One specimen.

Carpophaga bicolor.

Myristicivora bicolor, Sclat. P. Z. S. 1883, p. 200.

One specimen.

Macropygia timorlaoënsis.

Macropygia timorlaoënsis, Meyer, Zeitschr. f. d. ges. Orn. 1884, p. 25.

One specimen (male).

This species is closely allied to *M. magna* Wall., from Timor, Ombaai, Wetter and Lettie, by its size and the mode of banding all over except the tail. It may however at once be distinguished by the color of the tail, which is grayish brown instead of fulvous above and reddish underneath.

Geopelia Maugei.

Geopelia Maugei (Temm.), Sclat. P. Z. S. 1883, p. 200.
One specimen.

Chalcophaps indica.

Chalcophaps indica (L.), Schl. Mus. P.-B., Columbae, p. 145.
Chalcophaps chrysochlora (Wagl.), Sclat. P. Z. S. 1883, p. 200.
One specimen (jun.).

Ardea picata.

Ardea picata, Gould, P. Z. S. 1845, p. 62.
Ardea aruensis, G. R. Gray, P. Z. S. 1858, p. 188; Salvad. Orn. Pap. III. p. 346.
Ardea Lansbergei, Schl. Notes Leyd. Mus. 1879, p. 113.

One specimen (junior), which is exactly similar to the five from Celebes, described by Prof. Schlegel under the name of *A. Lansbergei* (l. c.). All these six specimens are apparently younger birds, the dark parts showing more or less that kind of fulvous tinge which is so peculiar to the young stage of those species whose dark parts become slaty blue when adult. The white feathers on the edge of the wing are another indication of the young stage of these birds, and also is the want of the lengthened feathers on neck, chest and rump, which are so very characteristical to adult birds of this family. The upper surface and sides of the head, and the hind neck are strongly tinged with ashy gray, and in two specimens the somewhat lengthened occipital feathers are intermixed with some black ones, which make it evident that in a more advanced stage the whole upper surface of the head will change into black.

As the measurements of the mentioned birds are absolutely the same as in *A. picata*, and the lower surface in the young stage of this latter species is stated to be white (Gould, l. c.), I feel quite sure that *A. aruensis* is nothing but a young stage of *A. picata*.

Anas radjah.

Anas radjah, Garn. Voy. Coq. Zool. Atlas, pl. 49; Schl. Mus. P.-B., Anseres, p. 69.

Tadorna radjah, Sclat. P. Z. S. 1883, p. 200.

One adult female.

Fregata minor.

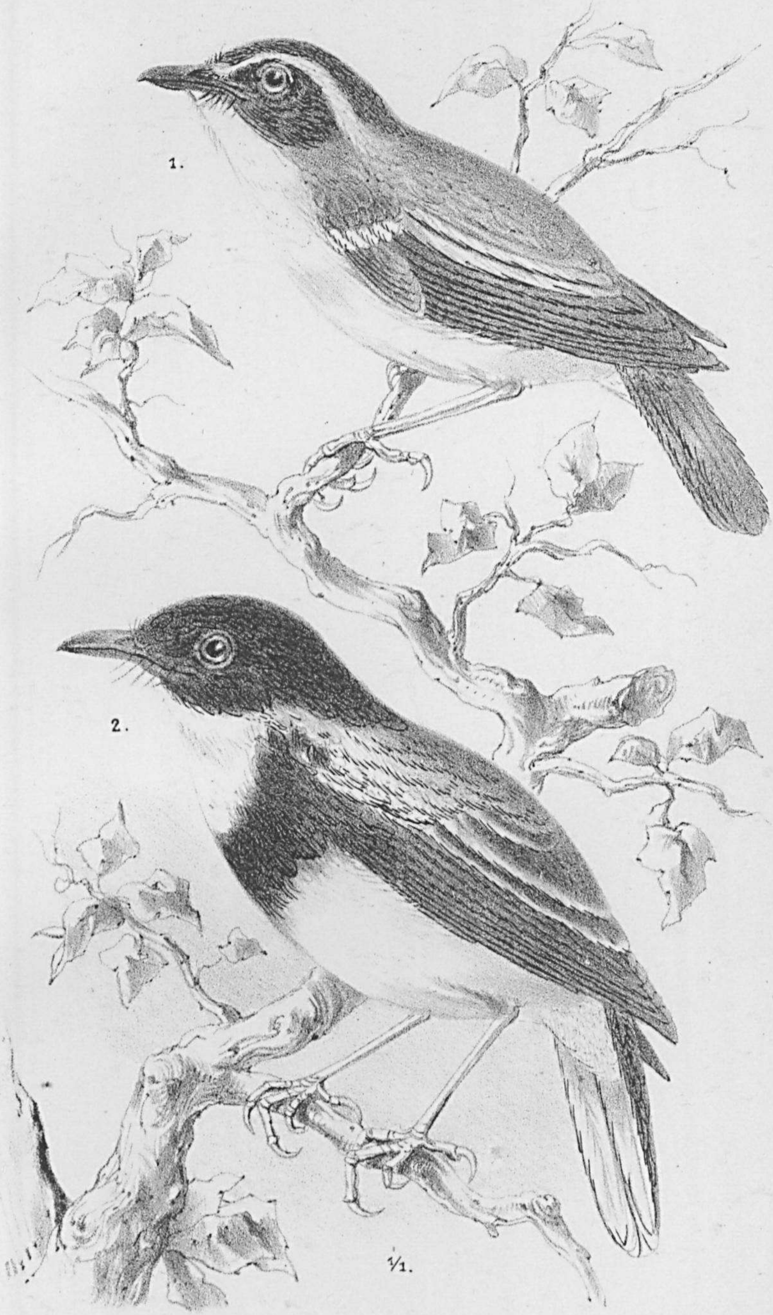
Fregata minor (Briss.), Schl. Mus. P.-B., Pelecani, p. 3.

One specimen.

Leyden Museum, 15th November 1885.

P. S. Of the four hitherto known species of *Erythromyias*, two are represented in Vol. IV (Plate IV) of Mr. Sharpe's »Catalogue of Birds in the British Museum" (*E. dumetoria* Wall. and *E. muelleri* Blyth). As the third species (*E. pyrrhonota* Müll. & Schl.) from Timor is, as far as I know, still unfigured, I thought it useful to join the figure of this species to that of the new one on Plate 3 of this volume.

J. B.



J. Büttikofer ad. nat. del. H.Verlint lith. P.W.M.Trap impr.

1. ERYTHROMYIAS RIEDELI *Büttikofer.*
2. ERYTHROMYIAS PYRRHONOTA *S. Müller.*